

**From:** Richard Ibbotson  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 3:23pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Hello

Although I am not a U.S citizen I feel that I have to strongly object to the proposed settlement which is between the U.S. Government and the Redmond giant which is Microsoft.

Over here we find that in daily business and personal life we are pressurised by the careful brainwashing methods that MS UK and their parent company use on both our business community and on the home user community. It doesn't stop there. It is a known thing that Bill Gates is Priminister Tony Blair's friend. We are clearly told that the recent £50 deal between MS and our National Health Service "saved the tax payer a great deal of money". At the same time the Ministry od Defence who have an agreement with the U.S Government to use cruise missiles with the Royal Navy were allowed to use one licence for the whole of their network. Why is it that Microsoft ripping off the poorly and infirm and elderly people of this country ?

It has reached the point where people are seen to be social outcasts if they do not use Microsoft software. For me; someone who believes that other people should be allowed to make their own choice, this is intolerable.

Since I am myself someone who wore the Royal Air Force uniform back in the 1980s I find it to be wholly unacceptable that a multinational monopoly that has been found to be in breach of some serious federal laws should be let off with a slapped wrist or something similar. I do hope that the U.S Government will reconsider the present intention to let Microsoft get away with all kinds of things that are normally associated with organised crime and at an international level.

Thank you

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Mr Richard Ibbotson  
170 Bolehill Road  
Sheffield S6 5DE  
United Kingdom

<http://www.sheflug.co.uk/seminar.html>

